

In re of Appln. No. 09/155,676

on September 10, 2001. To alleviate this problem, claim 51 has now been deleted in favor of new claim 69 and claims previously dependent from claim 51 have been made dependent from claim 69.

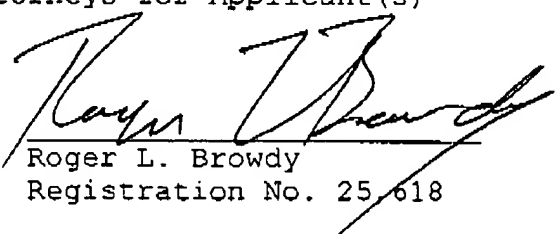
All of the claims now present in the case clearly define over the references of record and fully comply with 35 U.S.C. §112 for the reasons set forth in applicants' amendment of March 20, 2002. Entry of both the present amendment and applicants' amendment of March 20, 2002, and allowance of the case are, therefore, earnestly solicited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

Respectfully submitted,

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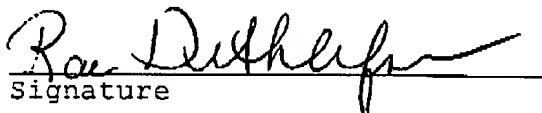
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

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April 17, 2002

Date

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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

Claims 22, 43, 44, 49 and 52-55 have been amended as follows:

22 (~~Twice~~Thrice-amended). An antibody, active fragment of the antibody, or derivative thereof, specific for a polypeptide according to claim ~~51~~69.

43 (Amended). A method for screening of a ligand capable of binding a polypeptide according to claim ~~51~~69 comprising contacting an affinity chromatography matrix to which said polypeptide is attached with a cell extract whereby the ligand is bound to said matrix, and eluting, isolating and analyzing said ligand.

44 (Amended). A method for screening of a DNA sequence coding for a ligand capable of binding to a polypeptide according to claim ~~51~~69 comprising applying the yeast two-hybrid procedure in which a sequence encoding said polypeptide is carried by one hybrid vector and sequences from a cDNA or genomic DNA library are carried by the second hybrid vector, transforming yeast host cells with said vectors, isolating the positively transformed cells, and extracting said second hybrid vector to obtain a sequence encoding said ligand.

49 (~~Amended~~Twice-amended). A method for identifying and producing a molecule capable of directly or indirectly

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either inhibiting or decreasing the cellular activity which is changed or mediated by a polypeptide according to claim ~~51~~69;

52 (Amended). A polypeptide in accordance with claim ~~51~~69, wherein said polypeptide of (a) is the sequence encoded by the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.

53 (AmendedTwice-amended). A polypeptide in accordance with claim ~~51~~69, wherein said polypeptide of (a) is the polypeptide encoded by the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:6.

54 (Amended). A DNA sequence encoding a polypeptide in accordance with claim ~~51~~69.

55 (AmendedTwice-amended). A DNA sequence encoding a polypeptide that binds to TRAF2 and either inhibits or decreases activity of NF- κ B, selected from the group consisting of

(i) a cDNA sequence comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1;

(ii) a cDNA sequence comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:6;

(iii) a cDNA sequence comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4;

(iv) a fragment of a sequence of (i)-(iii) which encodes a polypeptide that binds to TRAF2 and either inhibits or decreases the activity of NF- κ B;

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(v) a DNA sequence capable of hybridization to a sequence of (i)-(iv) under moderately stringent conditions and which encodes a polypeptide that binds to TRAF2 and either inhibits or decreases the activity of NF- κ B; and

(vi) any DNA sequence other than those defined in (i)-(v) which encodes a polypeptide in accordance with claim 5169.

Claim 69 has been added.